AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the present title with the following amended title:

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 1, in a chuck assembly in accordance with, for example, Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 4-365504, a rotary sleeve 32 provided on a body 31 is rotated, jaws 34 engaged with rotary nuts 33 ~~is~~ are moved back and forth to be opened and closed by the rotation of the rotary nuts 33 rotated together with the rotary sleeve 32 to thereby clamp the tool by the jaws 34, the rotary nuts 33 are formed into an annular shape with the divided nuts, and a shape holding ring 35 is provided around the rotary nuts 33 for holding an overall shape of the rotary nuts 33 composed of divided nuts attached to an inner circumferential surface of the ~~rotary nuts 32~~ rotary nuts 33. In this case, reference numeral 37 designates a grip sleeve.

Please replace the last paragraph on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Accordingly, in order to overcome the above-noted defects, an object of the present invention is to provide an excellent chuck assembly that is superior in assembling workability, may be produced in low cost and is superior in mass-production property, in which ~~an~~ a convex and concave engaging means is provided between a rotary sleeve and a ring member (shape holding ring), the ring member (shape holding ring) and the rotary sleeve are engaged with each other by the convex and concave engaging means so that the ring member (shape holding ring)

may be retained to the rotary sleeve while being prevented from the rotary sleeve by a so-called one action.

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Also, in the chuck assembly according to the first or second aspect, according to a third aspect of the invention, the convex and concave engaging means comprises a concave portion 9 provided in a circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 and a ~~linear~~ lateral or convex projection 10 provided in the ring member 8 and fitted and retained with the concave portion 9.

Please replace the sixth full paragraph on page 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Also, in the chuck assembly according to the first or second aspect, according to a fifth aspect of the invention, the convex and concave engaging means comprises a U-shaped window in side elevation composed of a circumferential groove 9a provided in a circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 made of synthetic resin and longitudinal grooves 9b contiguous with both ends of the circumferential groove 9a, and ~~a linear~~ the projection 10 provided in the ring member 8 made of metal, fitted and retained with the circumferential groove 9a of the window, and extending in the circumferential direction of the ring member 8.

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Each concave groove 6 having a somewhat greater width than the width of the ~~linear~~ lateral or convex projection 10 is formed from the proximal end edge to the vicinity of the circumferential groove 9a in the inner circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2. Due to the existence of the concave groove 6, the ~~linear~~ projection 10 does not ~~work as~~ obstruct and the ring member 8 is enable to be engaged in the rotary sleeve 2. Incidentally, a lower surface 6a of the concave groove 6 in Fig. 3 is formed into a tapered surface that is formed wider toward the upper portion so that the projection 10 may ride over the concave groove 6 more easily.

Please replace the sixth full paragraph on page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the case where the window is formed into a U-shape in side elevation, a movable plate 13 surrounded by the three grooves is formed, and this movable plate 13 becomes an elastic plate because the rotary sleeve 2 is made of synthetic resin. This movable plate 13 is pushed and moved to the outside by the ~~linear~~ projection 10 when the ~~linear~~ projection 10 passes through the movable plate 13. Accordingly, the ~~lienar~~ projection 10 smoothly rides over the edge 13a of the movable plate 13 and smoothly moves to the circumferential groove 9a.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the first embodiment, since the movable plate 13 is the elastic plate as described above, the rotary sleeve 2 is made of synthetic resin. However, the rotary sleeve 2 may be made of other material, for example, metal. However, in this case, it is necessary to provide such an elasticity that the elastic plate may restore to the original position after the elastic plate has been pushed by the ~~linear~~ projection 10.

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Also, in the first embodiment, since the window is formed in the same position as that of the convex portion 15 at the tip end of the rotary sleeve 2 (the portion where the convex and concave engaging portion engaging with the rotary nuts 3 is formed), more specifically, at the same angular position as viewed from the back side of the rotary sleeve 2 (as viewed from above in Fig. 3), the ring member 8 is fitted with the body 1 while the concave portions at the tip end of the rotary nuts 3 and the ~~linear~~ projections 10 of the ring member 8 are aligned with each other. Then, when the rotary sleeve 2 is fitted with the body 1 while the ~~convex portions~~ projections 10 and the concave grooves 6 are aligned with each other upon coupling the rotary sleeve 2 with the body 1 fitted with the ring member 8, the convex and concave engaging portion is partially engaged to be positioned. Under this alignment condition, the rotary sleeve 2 is pushed; that is, the rotary sleeve 2 is pushed until the ring member 8 is brought into contact with the inner

stepped surface 2a of the rotary sleeve 2. The coupling work of the convex and concave engaging portion and the retaining work of the ~~linear~~ projections 10 with the circumferential grooves 9a may be simultaneously performed to thereby simplify the assembling work.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

More specifically, due to the existence of the concave grooves 6, the ~~linear~~ projections 10 of the ring member 8 may be smoothly moved to the movable plates 13 formed by the U-shaped windows as viewed in side elevation, and furthermore, the movable plates 13 are pushed and moved to the outside by the ~~linear~~ projections 10 so that the ~~linear~~ projections 10 are not prevented from moving to the circumferential grooves 9a. Namely, it is unnecessary to take such care that the ring groove is formed in the circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 and the stop ring 36 is provided and the engagement and retention between the windows formed in the inner circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 and the ~~linear~~ projections 10 formed in the ring member 8 is simply performed so that the ring member 8 may be retained to the rotary sleeve 2 while preventing the ring member 8 from falling apart. Accordingly, it is possible to attach the ring member 8 to the inner circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 by one action, which is extremely superior in workability.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A member made of metal and formed into a thin annular shape is adopted as the ring member 8. The ring member 8 is used to hold the divided nuts into a ring shape. A pair of side lateral or convex projections 10 formed in the circumferential direction and engaged and retained with the pair of grooves formed in the rotary sleeve 2 are formed in an outer circumferential surface of a proximal end of the ring member 8.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Each concave groove 6 having a somewhat greater width than the width of the ~~linear~~ projection 10 is formed from the proximal end edge to the vicinity of the circumferential groove 9a in the inner circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2. Due to the concave grooves 6, the ~~linear~~ projection 10 does not ~~work as~~ obstruct and the ring member 8 is enable to be engaged in the rotary sleeve 2.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Also, in the second embodiment, since the groove 9 is formed in the same position as that of the convex portion 15 at the tip end of the rotary sleeve 2 (the portion where the convex and concave engaging portion engaging with the rotary nuts 3 is formed), more specifically, at the

same angular position as viewed from the back side of the rotary sleeve 2 (as viewed from above in Fig. 3), the ring member 8 is fitted with the body 1 while the concave portions at the tip end of the rotary nuts 3 and the ~~linear~~ projections 10 of the ring member 8 are aligned with each other. Then, when the rotary sleeve 2 is fitted with the body 1 while the ~~convex portions~~ projections 10 and the concave grooves 6 are aligned with each other upon coupling the rotary sleeve 2 with the body 1 fitted with the ring member 8, the convex and concave engaging portion is partially engaged to be positioned. Under this alignment condition, the rotary sleeve 2 is pushed; that is, the rotary sleeve 2 is pushed until the ring member 8 is brought into contact with the inner stepped surface 2a of the rotary sleeve 2. The coupling work of the convex and concave engaging portion and the retaining work of the ~~linear~~ projections 10 with the groove 9 may be simultaneously performed to thereby simplify the assembling work.

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

More specifically, due to the existence of the concave grooves 6, the ~~linear~~ projections 10 of the ring member 8 may be smoothly moved to the ride-over portions 16 just before the grooves 9, and furthermore, the ~~linear~~ projections 10 may ride over the ride-over portions 16 to the grooves 9. Namely, it is unnecessary to take such care that the ring groove is formed in the circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 and the stop ring 36 is provided and the engagement and retention between the grooves 9 formed in the inner circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 and the ~~linear~~ projections 10 formed in the ring member 8 is simply

performed so that the ring member 8 may be retained to the rotary sleeve 2 while preventing the ring member 8 from falling apart. Accordingly, it is possible to attach the ring member 8 to the inner circumferential surface of the rotary sleeve 2 by one action, which is extremely superior in workability.